

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Fiscal Year 2011**

Fiscal Year 2011 began with almost the same degree of change we saw in FY 10. Assistant Chief Michael Zlogar retired in July 2010 after almost 40 years of service. He began as a Student Firefighter then transitioned to the Call Force and ultimately served on the Permanent Force for more the 34 years. His experience, dedication and work ethic will be missed.

Acting Captain Robert Adair retired after more than 30 years of service. Captain Adair continued the tradition his father began as a member of the Amherst Fire Department. His experience, dedication and wise counsel are attributes that will be hard to duplicate.

Sadly we lost Firefighter David Bennett to cancer in August. He gave us 10 years of honorable service after having served his country during the first Gulf War. He was a special part of our department and his presence will remain with us.

We implemented various personnel changes as we dove into FY 11. In August we conducted a rigorous hiring process which allowed us to fill 7 vacancies. The individuals we hired come from diverse backgrounds and with varying experience. Two of the recruits have since successfully completed the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy 12-week Recruit Training Program. They all look to be valuable additions to the department.

Captain Donald McKay was named Acting Assistant Chief with responsibility for Fire Prevention and EMS. Firefighter Michael Roy was assigned to the Fire Prevention Division as Fire Inspector. Firefighters William Dunn and Lawrence Tebo were named Acting Captains.

In March 2011, three of our Firefighters, Reed Frailey, Thomas Messer and William Messer received orders for training and eventual deployment to Afghanistan as part of the Massachusetts National Guard. They deployed to Afghanistan in June 2011.

In May of 2011 and after an extensive promotional process, Acting Assistant Chief McKay and Acting Captains Dunn and Tebo earned placement in their positions on a permanent basis.

Our SAFE, Student Awareness of Fire Education, program continues to lead the way statewide in quality and effectiveness. In conjunction with the Leverett and Pelham Fire Departments our program is consistently recognized as the model throughout the Commonwealth.

### **FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES**

Our total call volume increased 6% over FY 10. Our fire/rescue calls for service increased 26% over FY 10. We continue to respond to a wide spectrum of hazardous incidents. Notable during the FY 10 period was a successful cave rescue in Leverett led by our Technical Rescue Team. Our Technical Rescue Team also responded to West Springfield to assist with rescue efforts after the June 1, 2011 tornado. Our Call Force responded to Monson to assist with rescue efforts there after the tornado went through the area.

A recent federal directive mandated that all emergency service radio communications equipment would need to be updated by January 1, 2013. We were able to obtain a federal grant to underwrite the upgrade, acquisition and replacement of communications equipment. We will not only be in compliance with the federal directive before the deadline but will also enhance our communications capability.

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Our EMS program continues to provide Amherst residents in addition to the residents of Pelham, Shutesbury, Leverett and Hadley with excellent care. Even so we are constantly working on improving on our system and implementing those improvements. Our ongoing training remains on the forefront of emerging technologies. We couple that with a rigorous quality assurance program to insure we deliver the best care.

Our EMS call volume increased 2% over FY 10. Although this was a smaller increase in comparison to last year notable is the 55% increase in the number of instances we requested mutual aid EMS assistance from outside agencies. An overall increase in requests for service, the significant increase in fire/rescue responses and staffing levels were contributing factors for the increased need for mutual aid.

### **PREVENTION AND INSPECTION SERVICES**

Prior to his retirement at the end of July 2010, Assistant Chief Zlogar worked diligently with Captain McKay and Firefighter Roy on the transition of responsibilities in the division. Over the course of this year Acting Assistant Chief McKay and Firefighter/Inspector Roy built on the foundation established by Assistant Chief Zlogar and began to enhance established procedures in addition to developing new procedures and policies. This will allow us to keep pace and in most cases stay ahead of the curve in the Prevention/Inspection realm.

During this year we were asked to be part of a national pilot prevention/education program called Vision 20/20. This is a program modeled on a British initiative that worked toward broader Fire Department involvement with the community in the area of fire prevention and education. Our participation focused on elders and our college student population. Our prime program tools were home fire inspections, a smoke detector installation initiative and enlisting our Student Firefighters to spread the message in the college community. Feedback from our initiative was extremely positive.

### **TRAINING**

Given our operational tempo, training continued to be conducted when the opportunities presented themselves. We have taken steps to amend our training regimen to a more regular schedule. We've amended our training program to make it more comprehensive and inclusive of the Call and Student forces.

We have also encouraged and seen a subsequent increase in member participation in training programs sponsored by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and National Fire Academy. This not only pays an immediate dividend to our operation but is laying the foundation for the future leadership of the department.

Chief W. Tim Nelson

# Amherst Fire Department

Annual report of activity for period 07/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

By Town	Fire	%	EMS	%
Amherst	1426	98.6	3000	72.0
Belchertown	0	.0	28	.7
Hadley	2	.1	885	21.3
Leverett	6	.4	84	2.0
Northampton	1	.1	6	.1
Other	6	.4	3	.1
Pelham	1	.1	78	1.9
Shutesbury	1	.1	74	1.8
Sunderland	3	.2	6	.1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1446</b>		<b>4164</b>	

These are the totals for Amherst with the colleges removed.

	Fire	EMS
Amherst (only)	992	2081
Amherst College	76	115
Hampshire College	153	82
UMASS	205	722

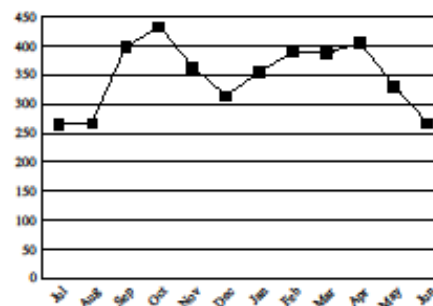
These are just FYI totals of interest during this period.

	Fire	EMS
Center for Extended Care	10	98
Sunbridge of Hadley	0	154
UMASS	68	19
Fraternities/Sororities		

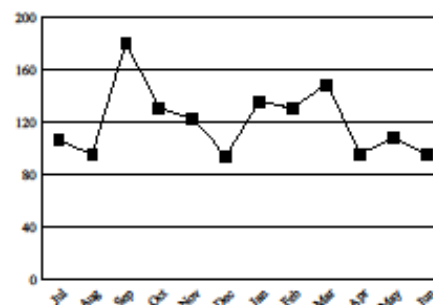
By Month	Mutual Aid EMS into Amherst
Jul	2
Aug	4
Sep	23
Oct	23
Nov	4
Dec	7
Jan	4
Feb	6
Mar	4
Apr	13
Jun	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>92</b>

By Month	Fire	%	EMS	%
Jul	107	7.4	264	6.3
Aug	96	6.6	266	6.4
Sep	180	12.4	397	9.5
Oct	131	9.1	432	10.4
Nov	123	8.5	362	8.7
Dec	94	6.5	313	7.5
Jan	136	9.4	354	8.5
Feb	131	9.1	389	9.3
Mar	149	10.3	387	9.3
Apr	96	6.6	404	9.7
May	108	7.5	330	7.9
Jun	95	6.6	266	6.4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1446</b>		<b>4164</b>	

EMS calls only (by month)



Fire incidents only (by month)

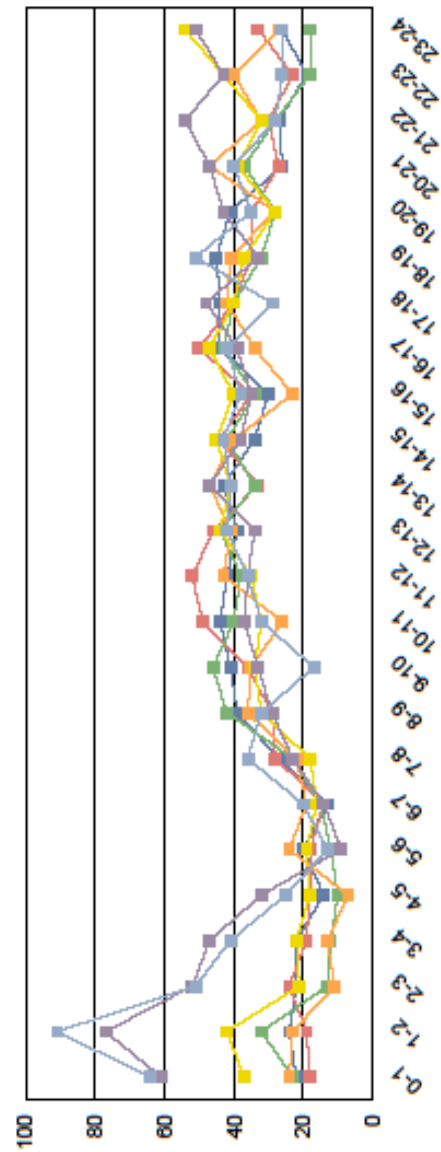


Amherst Fire Department

Both Fire and EMS calls by day of week and time of day

07/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	Total
Mon	22	24	22	22	14	20	13	27	39	41	44	42	39	43	34	30	44	44	45	41	26	27	19	26	748
Tue	18	19	24	19	18	18	14	28	29	36	49	52	46	33	44	35	50	40	35	35	27	30	23	33	755
Wed	23	32	13	12	10	12	15	23	42	46	40	38	44	34	42	34	43	40	32	28	37	28	18	18	704
Thu	24	23	11	13	7	24	19	22	36	35	26	43	41	47	40	23	34	42	41	28	47	32	40	27	725
Fri	37	42	21	22	18	19	16	18	32	34	32	35	44	41	45	40	47	40	37	28	39	32	43	54	816
Sat	61	77	52	47	32	9	14	23	29	33	37	36	34	47	38	35	39	48	33	43	47	54	43	51	962
Sun	64	91	51	41	25	13	20	36	32	17	32	36	42	41	43	38	42	29	51	35	40	28	26	26	899
Total	248	288	184	178	114	115	111	177	238	242	260	282	290	286	286	245	292	283	274	238	263	231	212	235	5602

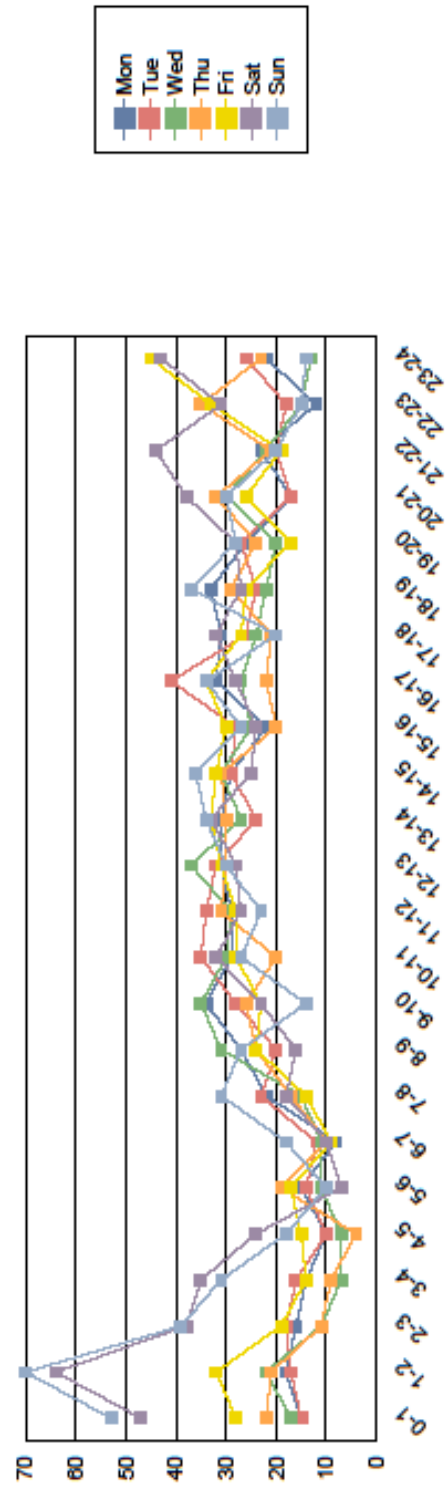


Amherst Fire Department

Number of FMS runs by day of week and time of day

07/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	Total
Mon	15	18	16	14	10	15	8	22	27	34	29	29	31	31	29	22	32	31	33	26	17	23	12	22	546
Tue	15	17	18	16	10	14	12	23	20	28	35	34	32	24	29	28	41	26	24	27	17	20	18	26	554
Wed	17	22	11	7	7	11	11	15	31	35	30	29	37	27	31	25	27	24	22	20	30	22	15	13	519
Thu	22	21	11	9	4	19	10	17	24	26	20	31	30	30	31	20	22	21	29	24	32	21	35	23	532
Fri	28	32	19	14	15	17	9	14	24	23	28	28	31	33	32	30	34	27	26	17	26	19	33	45	604
Sat	47	64	38	35	24	7	10	18	16	23	32	27	28	33	25	34	28	32	27	28	38	44	31	43	722
Sun	53	70	39	31	18	10	18	31	27	14	27	23	30	34	36	27	34	30	37	28	30	20	15	14	686
Total	187	244	152	126	88	83	78	140	160	183	201	201	210	212	213	176	218	181	185	170	190	160	150	181	4163

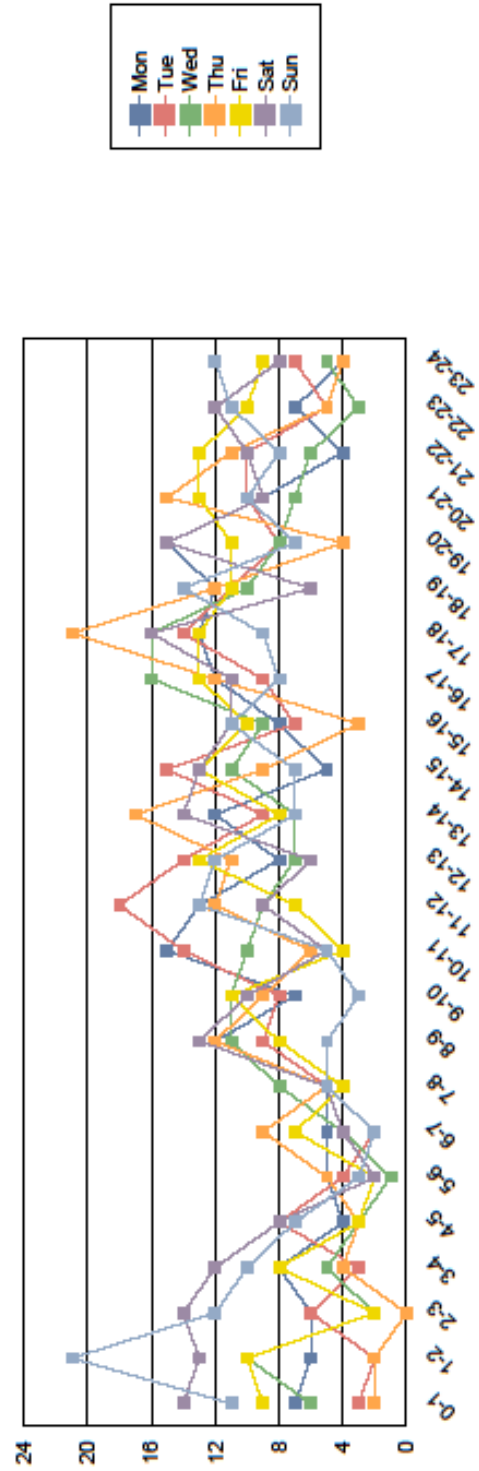


Amherst Fire Department

Number of fire incidents by day of week and time of day

07/01/2010 - 06/30/2011

	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	Total
Mon	7	6	6	8	4	5	5	5	12	7	15	13	8	12	5	8	12	13	12	15	9	4	7	4	202
Tue	3	2	6	3	8	4	2	5	9	8	14	18	14	9	15	7	9	14	11	8	10	10	5	7	201
Wed	6	10	2	5	3	1	4	8	11	11	10	9	7	7	11	9	16	16	10	8	7	6	3	5	185
Thu	2	2		4	3	5	9	5	12	9	6	12	11	17	9	3	12	21	12	4	15	11	5	4	193
Fri	9	10	2	8	3	2	7	4	8	11	4	7	13	8	13	10	13	13	11	11	13	13	10	9	212
Sat	14	13	14	12	8	2	4	5	13	10	5	9	6	14	13	11	11	16	6	15	9	10	12	8	240
Sun	11	21	12	10	7	3	2	5	5	3	5	13	12	7	7	11	8	9	14	7	10	8	11	12	213
Total	52	64	42	50	36	22	33	27	70	52	52	63	71	74	73	52	61	102	76	68	73	62	53	40	1446



# **AMHERST FIRE DEPARTMENT**

EMS calls by town, by year

	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
Amherst	2322	2432	2483	2712	2785	2886	2878	3000	3107
Belchertown	31	32	29	44	34	29	54	28	23
Hadley	754	651	788	739	741	847	849	884	941
Leverett	67	66	52	75	79	71	71	84	71
Northampton	2	2	3	2	0	2	2	6	3
Other	1	2	1	7	5	3	5	3	2
Pelham	68	68	68	69	53	61	80	78	88
Shutesbury	61	38	64	55	64	55	51	74	68
Sunderland	33	49	68	78	85	10	8	6	19
Total	3339	3340	3556	3781	3856	3944	4088	4163	4322